

**Inventive Performance Improvement
of
Integrated Optical Rate Sensor
Using TIPS/TRIZ**

Julian O. Blossi
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, California

Bruce R. Youmans
Consultant
Sierra Vista, Arizona

Jim Kowalek, Ph.D., P.E.
Renaissance Leadership Institute
Oregon House, California

ABSTRACT

The Theory of Inventive Problem Solving (TIPS or also known as TRIZ) is a new scientific approach to innovative improvements of products and processes. This methodology was applied to inventively improve performance of an Integrated Optic Rate Sensor (IORS). The problem was to improve angular rate sensitivity while light was lost due to an increased optical waveguide length. Development of new innovative ideas was based on the understanding of the "Laws of Engineering System Evolution", "Inventive Principles" and "Effects" applied to solve this physical contradiction. Using the "Inventive Machine Expert System Software," a number of sixty-five potential new solutions were generated in a very short time. The number of new solutions generated by using TRIZ is considered to be over an order of magnitude higher than using the old methods. Two ideas have patent level quality.